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❷発明の名称

水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤及びその製法

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1. 発明の名称

水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤及びその製法 2.特許請求の範囲

- (1) 天然産ブルーサイトを、コールターカウンター法によるメジアン径が2乃至 5 μmとなるように選式粉砕し、この粉砕物を脂肪酸のアンモニウム塩又はアミン塩で表面処理し、次いで乾燥することを特徴とする水酸化マグネシウム系整燃剤の製法。
- (2) 天然産ブルーサイトが80万至96%の純度と1×10⁻³以下の格子歪係数とを有するものである請求項1記載の製法。
- (3) 脂肪酸のアンモニウム塩又はアミン塩を、 ブルーサイト当り脂肪酸として1.5 乃至8.0 重量 %の量で用いる誘求項1 記載の製法。
- (4) 発達したブルーサイト型結晶構造を有し且つ 2 乃至 8 μ m のメジアン径と 1 × 1 0 ⁻³以下の格子亜係数を有する水酸化マグネシウム粒子と、 該粒子の表面を被覆し且つ少なくとも一部がマグ

ネシウム塩を形成している脂肪酸層とから成り且 つ式

$$D_{o} = \frac{I_{ooi}}{I_{ioi}}$$

式中、 I oo. は試料の面指数 [001]の X 線回折ピーク強度であり、 I io. は試料の面 指数 [101]の X線回折ピーク強度であ る、

で定義される配向度 (D 。) が 2 以上であること を特徴とする耐白華性に優れた水酸化マグネシウム系数燃剤。

- (5) オレフィン系樹脂に請求項4記載の水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤を配合して成る難燃性樹脂組成物。
- 3. 発明の詳細な説明

(産業上の利用分野)

本発明は、耐白華性に優れた水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤及びその製法に関する。本発明は更にこの難燃剤を配合した難燃性オレフィン系樹脂組成物に関する。

(従来の技術)

本酸化マグネシウムがオレフィン系樹脂等に対する優れた難燃剤であることは古くから知られており、水酸化マグネシウムを比較的多い量で、必要により金属石鹼と共にオレフィン系樹脂に配合することも広く行われている。

(発明が解決しようとする問題点)

従来難燃剤に使用されている上記の水酸化マグ

本発明の他の目的は、比較的低コストであり且 つ製造も容易な水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤及び その製法を提供するにある。

(問題点を解決するための手段)

本発明によれば、天然産ブルーサイトを、コールターカウンター法によるメジアン径が 2 乃至 6 μ m となるように湿式粉砕し、この粉砕物を脂肪酸のアンモニウム塩又はアミン塩で表面処理し、次いで乾燥することを特徴とする水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤の製法が提供される。

本発明によればまた、発達したブルーサイト型 結晶構造を有し且つ 2 乃至 8 μ m のメジアン径と 1 × 1 0 ⁻³以下の格子盃係数を有する水酸化マグ ネシウム粒子と、 該粒子の表面を被覆し且つ少な くとも一部がマグネシウム塩を形成している脂肪 酸層とから成り且つ式 キシウムは、例えば六角板状等の比較的整った粒子形状と比較的均子で微細な粒径とを有し、オレフィン系樹脂等に対して比較的多量に充填させ得るという利点を有しているが、これらの配合樹脂組成物は未だ解決すべき幾つかの問題点を有している。

その二つは、公知の水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤を配合したオレフィン系樹脂組成物、特に弾性率の比較的大きい樹脂に配合したものでは、破断伸びのような機械的性質がかなり低下することである。

従って、本発明の目的は、従来の水酸化マグネ

$$D_{o} = \frac{I_{ool}}{I_{lol}} \qquad ... \qquad (1)$$

式中、 I oo」は試料の面指数 [001]の X 線回折ビーク強度であり、 I ioi は試料の面 指数 [101]の X線回折ビーク強度であ る、

で定義される配向度 (D。) が 2 以上であることを特徴とする耐白華性に優れた水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤が提供される。

本発明によれば更に、上記特定の水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤をオレフィン系樹脂に配合して成る難燃性樹脂組成物が提供される。

(作用)

本発明では天然産のブルーサイトを水酸化マグネシウムの原料として用いることが一つの特徴である。天然産のブルーサイトでは、ブルーサイト型の結晶構造がよく発達しており、しかも格子歪係数も1×10-3以下、特に8×10-4以下であるという合成水酸化マグネシウムには認められない特徴を有する。

本発明ではかかる知見に基づき、結晶が良く発達しておりしかも格子歪の比較的小さいものとして天然産のブルーサイトを原料として用いるものである。ところで、天然産のブルーサイトは整理中に配合することができない。本発明では、このブルーサイトには対路中にない。本発明では、このブルーサイトには対路でし、しかもコールターカウンター法によるメジアン径が2万至6μm、特に2万至4μmをとなるように粒度調整することが第二の特徴であ

くない。

次いで得られた粉砕物を脂肪酸のアンモニウム 塩又はアミン塩で表面処理し、乾燥することが第 三の特徴である。即ち、ブルーサイト粉砕物に は、未だ水酸化マグネシウムの活性な面が存在し ている。この粉砕物を脂肪酸のアンモニウム塩又 はアミン塩で表面処理し、このものを乾燥する と、この塩が分解してアンモニアやアミンが揮散 し、表面に活性な脂肪酸が残留する。この脂肪酸 の少なくとも一部は活性な水酸化マグネシウム・ サイトと反応し、活性面のブロッキングが行われ る。かくして、本発明によれば、炭酸ガスとの反 応性が顕著に抑制された水酸化マグネシウム系難 燃剤が提供されることが了解されよう。しかも、 水酸化マグネシウム粒子表面に存在する脂肪酸マ グネシウムや脂肪酸は、水酸化マグネシウム粒子 を被覆する分散剤として、樹脂中への分散性を助 長する作用を示す。

プルーサイト型水酸化マグネシウム粒子におい ては、C軸方向 [001] に平行な面では活性が **5**.

ブルーサイトを空気中で摩砕すると、ずり広力 によりブルーサイトの層間が容易に分断されて [001]面の剝離と再結晶によりX線的に無定 形物質となることが知られている("粘土ハンド ブック 第二版、日本粘土学会編、技報堂出版、 (1967年))。かかる公知事実からする と、天然産ブルーサイトは発達した結晶構造を有 するとしても、これを粒度調整のため粉砕する と、折角の結晶構造が破壊されることが予測され る。しかるに、本発明に従い、天然産ブルーサイ トを選式粉砕すると、このブルーサイトの結晶化 度や格子歪係数を実質上変化させることなしに、 前述した粒度に粒度調整することが可能なるもの である。本発明においては、粒度が上記範囲にあ ることも重要であり、粒径が上記範囲を越えて大 きくなると、樹脂に配合した組成物の機械的強度 が低下する傾向が顕著となり、一方粒径が上記範 囲よりも小さくなると、配合租成物の溶融流動特 性や成形性が低下する傾向があり、何れも好まし

少なく、これに対する横断方向の面では活性が大きい。本発明の水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤では、粒径が微細化された状態においても、 C 軸方向への結晶が発達しており、その活性が小さくなっていることも了解されよう。

第2図は、本発明の水酸化マグネシウム系盤燃 剤のX線回折像を示す。一方、下記第A表は、A STMカードによる水酸化マグネシウム(ブルー サイト)のX線回折像を示す。

4.4	1/1,	hkl	4.3	1/1.	hkl
4.77	90	001	1.0087	8	211
2.725	6	100	0.9543	2	005
2.385	100	101	0.9503	5	114
1.794	5 5	102	0.9455	8	212
1.573	35	110	0.9085	4	300
1.494	18	111	0.9001	< 1	105
1.373	16	103	0.8974	2	204
1.353	2	200	0.8923	2	301
1.310	12	201	0.8643	6	213
1.192	2	004	0.8156	4	115
1.183	10	202	0.7856	4	220
1.118	2	113	ļ		ı
1.092	- 4	104	j		
1.034	6	203			
1.030	2	210	1		

マグネシウム系難燃剤は[0 0 1]面の結晶が発 違していることがわかる。この特徴は、前記式 (1) の配向度(D。)で規定することができる。 従来の合成水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤は、この 配向度(D。)が1.7 以下であるのに対して、木 発明のものでは配向度(De)が2以上、特に3 以上である。この特徴により、本発明の難燃剤 は耐白華性に優れていると共に、樹脂に配合し . たとき、伸びの保持率が大きいという特徴を有す

第2図と第A表との対比から、本発明の水酸化

(発明の好適應様)

本発明に用いる天然産プルーサイト (brucite) は、発達したブルーサイト型結晶構造を有する ものであり、一般に80乃至96%、特に85 乃至95%の純度と、1×10~。以下、特に8× 10⁻⁴以下の格子盃係数とを有するものが好まし い。その租成の代表例は次の通りである。

第B表

	一般的範囲	好適範囲
MgO	55.0 ~ 88.0%	59.0~ 65.0 %
S 1 0 2	8.0 ~ 1.0	7.0~2.0
Al ₂ O ₃ }	2.0 ~ 0.1	1.8~0.2
CaO	4.0 ~ 1.0	J.0~1.5
均熬減量	32.0 ~25.0	30.0~28.0

このブルーサイトは、我が国でも京都府大江山 江山鉱山、福岡県毘舎門岳等で産出するが、朝鮮 民主主義人民共和国、中華人民共和国旧谪州領等 で多量産出する。

天然産ブルーサイトの選式粉砕は、ブルーサイ トの水性スラリーを調製し、このスラリーを、 ポールミル、タワーミル、円形振動ミル、らせん 旋動揺動ミル、遊星形粉砕機、サンドグライン ダー、アトマイザー、パルペライザー、スーパー ミクロンミル、コロイドミル、毎に供給して粉砕 する。スラリーの濃度は一般に5乃至30重量

%、特に10万至25重量%の範囲が適当であ る。粉砕物の粒度は、前述した範囲にあるのが適一 当であり、一般に必要でないが、所望により、粉 砕スラリーを液体サイクロンに通して分級操作を 行ない、所望の粒度のものを取出すこともでき る.

この粉砕スラリーに、脂肪酸のアンモニウム塩 又はアミン塩を、乳化液の形で添加し、この系を 攪拌して表面処理を行う。 脂肪酸としては、炭素 数8乃至20の飽和乃至不飽和脂肪酸、例えばラ ウリン酸、パルミチン酸、ステアリン酸、オレイ ン酸、リノール酸、アラキン酸、トリデシル酸、 ミリスチン酸、ペンタデシル酸、ヘプタデシル 酸、ノナデカン酸、ベヘン酸、リノレン酸、アラ キドン酸、ヤシ油脂肪酸、牛脂脂肪酸、大豆油脂 肪酸、パーム油脂肪酸、硬化油脂肪酸等の混合脂 肪酸等を挙げることができる。これらの内でもオ レイン酸が好通である。

これらの脂肪酸をアンモニウム塩の形で用いる ことが好通であるが、アミン塩を用いることもで き、この場合アミンとしては、モノー、ダー、又はトリーエタノールアミン、モルホリン、ピロリジン等を用いることができる。これらのアンモニウム塩又はアミン塩は、ブルーサイト当り、脂肪酸として1.5 乃至6.0 重量%、特に2.0 乃至5.0 重量%の量で用いるのがよい。両者の混合攪拌は、特に制限されないが、一般に20乃至90℃、特に40万至80℃の温度で行うのがよく、添加混合後、或る時間ゆるやかな攪拌下に熟成させるのがよい。

得られる表面処理スラリーは、濾過、遠心分離、沈降等の手段で水性媒体から固液分離し、乾燥し、解砕して製品とする。

本発明の水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤は、種々の熱可塑性樹脂、特にオレフィン系樹脂の難燃剤として有用である。オレフィン系樹脂としては、低ー、中ー又は高ー密度ポリエチレン、ポリプロピレン、エチレンープロピレン共重合体、エチレンー酢酸ピニル共重合体、エチレンーアクリル酸エチル共重合体、エチレンーアクリル酸エチル共重合

(実施例)

実施例1

本実施例で、天然ブルーサイト (Brucite) を原料として、耐白華性に優れた水酸化マグネシウム 系難燃剤を製造し、オレフィン系樹脂に配合した 組成物について説明する。

天然ブルーサイトとしては、朝鮮半島産、米国テキサス州ランカスターのロウス鉱山産とカナダケベック州のアステストス産の3種類(A-1・B-1、C-1)を選んだ。その組成(分析値)、ブルーサイイト純度、メジアン径を測定し、下記第1表に示した。

なお、比較のために、海水マグネシウムより合成された合成品水酸化マグネシウム (A 社製) についても同様に測定し、第1表に併せ表示した。

以下に本発明で物性特定や同定のために使用した を選定方法について記載する。

① 粉末 X 線回折の測定法:-

常法の粉末X線回折法の手順にしたがい、理

体、イオン祭績オレフィン共重合体(アイオノマー)等を挙げることができ、本発明の水酸化マグ ネシウム系難燃剤は樹脂当り90乃至230重量 %、特に100乃至200重量%の量で配合する ことができる。

(発明の効果)

本発明によれば、結晶構造が発達し且つ格子歪係数の小さい天然産プルーサイトを原料として選び、これを選式粉砕し且つこれを脂肪酸のこれを選式粉砕しまで表面処理することである。とでも、対スとの反応性が抑制され、耐白の整性の反応性が抑制が提供である。ないの整性が優れているという利益を表現して、対対ないのないが大きく、機械的強度にも優れているという利点がある。

学電気(株)製 X 線回折装置(ゴニオメーター PMG-S2、レートメーター ECP-D2)を用いて下記に 示す測定条件で測定した。

(湖定条件)

ターゲット	Cu
フィルター	NI
ディテクター	S C
電 圧	40 kV
電液	20 mA
カウントスケール	8000 c/s
時定数	1 sec
スキャンスピード	1/8 °/min
チャートスピード	2 cm/min
ダイバージェンススリット	(101) (202) 1° 2°
レシーピングスリット	0.3 mm
スキャッタリングスリット	1* 2*
グランシング角	6.

② 面指数(101)の格子型係数の測定法:-上記の①項にて記載の粉末X線回折法の条件下

で謝定した回折図を基礎に、ジョンズ(Joras) 等 が提案している方法手順(『X線工業分析法』 オーム社書店(1965年)参照)に従い、面 指数(101) と(202) 角度を高純度シリコン (純度 99.99 %)を用いて補正後、β(真の半価幅) を求め、下記Hollの式(1) を用い、ヵ(格子盃係 数)を求めた。

$$\frac{\beta \cos \theta}{\lambda} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} + 2 \eta \frac{\sin \theta}{\lambda} \qquad \dots \qquad (1)$$

λ: Cu− K α 1 ±2

1.5405 A

θ: ブラック角

β: 真の半価幅 (ラジアン)

c: 結晶子径(A)

7: 格子歪係数

⑤ 配向度(D。)の測定法:-

上記記載の粉末X線回折法で下記に示す測定条 件下で測定した回折図を基礎に、面指数(001) と (101) の回折ピークの強度を下記配合度 (D。)式 (2) に代入し、配向度 (Do)を求めた。

I(001): ブルーサイド面指数(001) の ピーク強度(cps)

定量測定した。

内部標準法としては常法(『X線工業分析法』 オーム社書店(1965年)参照)により試料に 予じめシリカゲル粉末(水澤化学工業(株)製、 シルトンLP-105) 50重量%に、ファ化カルシウ ム(Cafa、和光莼薬(株)製、試薬特級)を外割 で10重量%添加し、充分均質に混合後、下記測 定条件下で測定した粉末X線回折図の、ブルーサ イトの場合は面指数 (101)、ファ化カルシウムの場 合は面指数(114) の回折ピークの面積比より計算 し、ブルーサイドの含有量をパーセントで求め to.

(湖定条件)

ターゲット	Cu
フィルター	IN
ディテクター	S C
電 庄	40 kV
笔 茂	20 mA
カウントフルスケール	8000 c/s
時定数	2 sec

I (101) : ブルーサイド面指数(101) の ピーク強度 (cps)

(測定条件)

ターゲット	Cu
フィルター	Ni
ディテクター	s c
笔 庄	30 kV
电 液	15 mA
カウントフルスケール	8000 c/s
時定数	1 sec
スキャンスピード	2 - /min
チャートスピード	1 cm/min
ダイバージェンススリット	1 .
レシーピングスリット	0.15 mm

スキャッタリングスリット

グランシング角

④ ブルーサイト純度(%)の測定法:-

試料を上記記載の粉末X線回折法で、下記に示 す湖定条件下で測定しした回折図を基礎に、面指 数(101) の回折ビークを用い、内部標準法により

スキャンスピード 1/4 * /min チャートスピード 1 cm/min ダイバージェンススリット レシーピングスリット 0.3 mm スキャッタリングスリット グランシング角

⑤ CO』との反応性テストの測定法:-

25℃におけるCO。ガス飽和水溶液 600 mg 中に試料粉末20gを加え均質分散せしめた後、 25℃で3日間放置し、次いで、液部を進別後、 固体部を110℃で乾燥し、COaとの反応性測定 試料とした。

反応性の測定は、上記方法でCO2 と接触せしめ た試料を上記の項記載の粉末X線回折法と測定条 件により測定した回折図を基礎に、面指数(101) の回折ピークを用い、標準添加法により定量測定 した.

標準添加法としては、常法により、試料にま ずシリカゲル (上記と同様の水澤化学工業(株) 製)を50重量%添加後、外割にて、ブルーサイ

ト標準品を5重量%、10重量%と各々添加し、面指数(101)の回折ピークの面積増加比より計算し、CO2と反応した水酸化マグネシウムの量を求め、この値より、CO2との反応により、生成した炭酸マグネシウムの生成量(%)とした。その数値が小さい程、反応性が低いと評価した。

® 平均粒子径(メジアン径)の測定法:−

200 ml ビーカーに試料 1 gをはかり採り、これに脱イオン水 1 5 0 ml を加えて提押下、組音波で 2 分間分散させる。次いでこの分散液をコールターカウンタ社製コールターカウンター T A II 型を使用し、アパーチャーチューブ 1 0 0 μm を用いて測定する。この時得られた累積分布図より平均粒子径(メジアン径(μm))を求めた。

比较级	合成品	A社製	68.5	0.	0.61	0.03	29.8	99.5	5.0	ı	1
(64	C - 1	カナダケベック	61.0	4.9	1.1	1.9	28.7	87.5	7.5	34.0	4.8
聚稿	B - 1	米国テキサス	64.2	4 .3	1.8	1.2	28.8	90.0	15.0	28.0	3.9
*	1 - A	朝鲜羊鳥	61.2	6.5	2.5	1.5	28.5	88.0	11.3	31.0	4.3
	拉	型型	0 % %	S 10,	080	Fe, 0,	I g. Loss	ブルーサイト純度(4)	メジアン俗 (エヨ)	吸泊型 (cc/8)	比表面後 (m3/8)
	Ħ			1 12	_	_	戟	1	メ	安谷	比张

この原料となる天然ブルーサイト(試料番号 A-1およびB-1) 150gと水750g (ス ラリー濃度20%)を容量71の磁製ポットミル にそれぞれ採り、フリントポールを粉砕媒体とし て、8時間回転させ、選式粉砕を行った。粉砕後 粉砕スラリー2種類(試料番号A-2. B-2) を容器に採り出し、約80℃の温度に加熱し、こ のスラリー液に、予じめ調製されたオレイン酸ア ・ ンモニウムのエマルジョン水溶液を攪拌下に注加 し、ブルーサイト固形分に対して、オレイン酸ア ンモニウムの量が2.5 重量%に相当する量を加 え、さらに約80℃に保持しながら2時間攪拌 し、各プルーサイト粒子表面にオレイン酸アンモ ニウムを一部反応させながら表面処理した。この 表面処理後、瀘過、水洗し、110℃で乾燥し て、オレイン酸アンモニウムで表面処理されたブ ルーサイト型水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤粉末 2 種類(試料番号A-4とB-4)を製造した。

ここに製造した2種類のブルーサイト試料のう ち、オレイン酸アンモニウムによるブルーサイト 表面処理する前のブルーサイトスラリーより選 過、乾燥して調製した未処理のブルーサイト粒子 粉末 2種類(試料 A - 3 . B - 3)について、下 記に示す物性測定を行い、その結果を下記第 2 表 に示した。

なお、前記した合成品を比較例として同様の物 性衝定を行い、その結果を第2表に併せ表示した。

次いで、数2種類の試料を用いて、オレフィン 系樹脂に配合し、樹脂製品としての評価を引張り 伸び残率テストと耐炭酸ガス性(耐白華性)テス トで行い、さらに難燃効果を限界酸素指数のテス トで評価した。

なお、比較例として、前記合成品についても同様にして評価した。

本実施例で選んだ樹脂は工業用に市販されている東ソ社製EVA(Ethylene Vinyl Acetate:ウルトラセン630)と日本ユニカー社製EEA(Ethylene Ethyl Acrylate: DPDJ 8169) の2種類を選んだ。

樹脂に対する配合量は、樹脂100重量部に対し、試料粉末130重量部を加え3.5 インチの混練ロールを用い、100℃で10分間ロール混練し、表面がテフロン加工されたステンレス製プレス板に挟み、130℃で7分間プレスし、各試験用シート片(伸び残率テスト用は厚さ1mmでダンベル型(JIS K-7113)、耐炭酸ガス性テスト用は60mm×120mm×1mm、限界酸素指数測定テスト用は

第 2 数

唱宝

成 较

선 교 교

m

<

中

枸

1

2.0 × 10-3

グルーサイ 90 3.8 ×10⁻

×

アルーサイト補限

恪子蛮係數

メジアン役 (4 m)

8

配向度 (D。) CO, との反応性

アーサイ

8 mm×80 mm × 1 mm) を調製した。

以上の試験用シート片を用いて、それぞれの物性テストを行い、その結果を第3表に表示した。

以下に難燃剤の配合された樹脂製品の物性評価 を行ったテスト測定法について記載する。

① 引張り伸び残率テストの測定法:-

上記方法で調製した試験用シートを、関係温度 9 0 %で CO2 ガスで飲和されたデシケータ中に吊し、3 0 ℃の恒温室に 2 週間静置し、この 2 週間 CO2 ガス中に曝された試験用シートをダンベラ型 に切断後、JIS-K-7113記載のブラスチックの引張 試験方法に単拠して、測定した。伸び残率が大きい程、シートの引張りに対する耐性が強いことを示している。

② 耐炭酸ガス性(耐白薬性) テストの測定法: 上記方法で調製した試験用シートを、関係運度 90%でCO2 ガスで飽和されたデシケータ中に吊 し、30℃の恒温室に2週間静置し、この2週間 での試験用シートの重量増加量を求め、重量増加 率(%)で表示し、増加率が小さい程、耐炭酸ガ ス性(耐白華性)に優れていると評価した。

(3) 限界酸素指数(%)テストの測定法:-

(株)東洋精機製作所製キャンドル法燃焼試験 機を使用し、JIS-K-7201記載のA法に準拠して、 試験を行い、限界酸素指数(%)を求め、この指 数が大きい程、難燃効果が大きいと評価した。

Φ 電気絶疑性(VR,Ω・cm)テストの測定法: --

JIS-K-1723に記載の方法に準拠して、所定量の 試料が配合された樹脂シート片(厚さ 1 mm)を、 6 0 %関係湿度に保たれたデシケーター中に 2 4 時間(2 0 ℃)保持した後、該試験シート片にス ズ쳠を純ワセリンを用いて貼り付け、直偏法によ り、シートの電気抵抗値を測定し、この測定値か ら下記式により体積固有抵抗値ρ(Ω・cm)を求 めた。

$$\rho = R \times \frac{A}{D}$$

ρ:体積固有抵抗値(Ω·cm)

A:スズ掐(小さい方)の面積(cm²)

D:シートの厚さ(cm)

,ex 3 ~ 8 3 * 101 × 光 40 ž. 2 2 9.0 25.0 ; : : • 30.0 5.6 : 8 š 東京芸芸治女 (火) Ė 8 ġ 制炭酸ガス性(粮 有效化键性 (事の数単 出版の複数

- 以上の結果、本発明の方法で製造された2種類 のブルーサイトはいずれも好遺な粒子径に翼裂さ れており、しかも格子盈係数は小さく、結晶が良 く発達しており、また配向度が高く、樹脂への配 合時における配向性分散に効果的である。さらに 本実施例におけるオレイン酸塩で表面処理された プルーサイトは、CO』 箆和水中での反応性が低く 押えられ、炭酸化しにくい水酸化マグネシウムで あり、しかも樹脂に配合されたシートは炭酸ガス との反応性が抑制されていることもあって白華性 がなく、しかも難燃性に優れていることが合成品 の場合と比較するとき良く理解される。

実施例 2

本実施例で、脂肪酸のアンモニウム塩またはア ミン塩で表面処理された水酸化マグネシウム系難 燃剤について説明する。

天然ブルーサイトの選式粉砕スラリーとしては 実成例1にて記載の方法で調製した試料番号A-2のスラリーを用いて、実施例1に記載と同様の 方法により、市販1級試薬より2種類の脂肪酸塩

を選び、下記第4表に示す量割合で表面処理し、 進過、水洗、乾燥し、それぞれ表面処理されたブ ルーサイト型水酸化マグネシウム系難燃剤2種類 (試薬番号2-1及び2-2)を製造した。

#

なお、表面処理剤として、オレイン酸ソーダを 用いて、同様に表面処理し、進過後、イオン交換 水で充分洗浄して調製した。比較例試料も調製し

ここに調製したオレイン酸塩で表面処理された ブルーサイト系の白華性が防止された難燃剤試料 について、実施例 1 の場合と同様にしてオレフィ ン系樹脂2種類(EVA、EEA)にそれぞれ樹 脂100郎に試料130郎を配合し、その各々の 物性測定を行い、その結果を第4表に併せ表示す る.

	* # 16 21	"	-	2 - 2	2	2	3	표	奉
出版的性の対	大田本田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田田	* アイン語	アンキン	サフムン型	アンモン	ギレイン語。	モルホリン	* 7 7 V	数ソーダ
	報告報告の表 選束では (1)	9:		3.6		2.5		2.5	
	数字の指数	EVA	EEA	EVA	EEA	EVA	EEA	EVA	EEA
	# C # (X)	13.1	65.3	1.1	68.0	17.1	20.4	82.8	81.5
	是 英	9.0	5.2	7	5.1	:	5.1	11.0	1.1
	東京教育部 (X)	11.1	25.0	23.0	24.8	21.5	25.5	28.0	24.5
		6.0 × 10'*	2.5 × 10**	9.0 × 10'*	4.5 × 10**	4.8 × 10**	2.5 × 101*	1.6 ×10"	1.0 × 10'*

-723-

持開平1-294792 (10)

第 1 図

以上の結果、脂肪酸のアンモニウム塩およびア ミン塩を表面処理する時は、オレイン酸ソーダで 表面処理した時に較べて、CO2の反応性が低く、 耐白革性に優れており、しかも電気絶縁性にも優 れているオレフィン系樹脂への配合難燃剤である ことが理解される。

4. 図面の簡単な説明

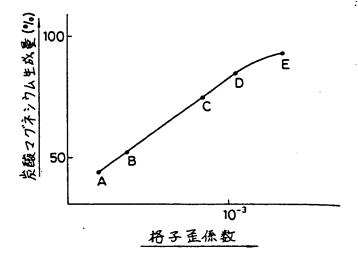
第1図は、本発明の水酸化マグネシウム系難燃 剤が持つ格子歪係数と、炭酸マグネシウムの生成量(%)との関係図を示す。

第2図は本発明の水酸化マグネシウムと合成の 水酸化マグネシウム (比較例)のX線回折図を示す。

特許出願人 水澤化学工業株式会社

代理 人 弁理士 鈴 木 都

代理 人 弁理士 庄子 幸

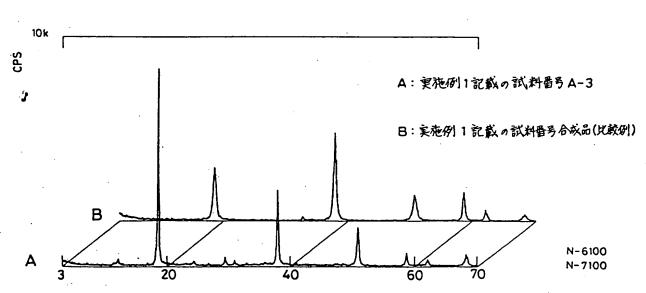


A: 実施例1記載の試料番号A-3

B: 実施例 1 記載の 試料番号 B-3

D: 実施例1記載の試料番号合成品(比較例)

第 2 図



TRANSLATION FROM JAPANESE

- (11) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application (Kokai) No. 1-294792
- (12) Official Gazette for Laid-Open Patent Applications (A)
- (51) <u>Int. Cl.⁴</u>: <u>Classification Symbols</u>: <u>Internal Office Registration Nos.</u>:

C 09 K 21/02 6958-4H C 01 F 5/14 6939-4G

(43) Disclosure Date: November 28, 1989 Request for Examination: Not yet submitted

Number of Claims: 5

(Total of 10 pages [in original])

- (54) Title of the Invention: Magnesium Hydroxide-based Flame Retardant, and Method for Manufacturing Same
- (21) Application No. 63-123923
- (22) Filing Date: May 23, 1988
- (72) Inventor: Hiroshi Sawada
- (72) Inventor: Takashi Mori
- (72) Inventor: Yoshinobu Komatsu
- (72) Inventor: Akio Koguma
- (72) Inventor: Masahide Ogawa
- (71) Applicant: Mizusawa Chemical Industries Co., Ltd
- (74) Agent: Ikuo Suzuki, Patent Attorney, and one other

SPECIFICATION

1. [Title of the Invention]

Magnesium Hydroxide-based Flame Retardant, and Method for Manufacturing Same

2. [Claims]

- (1) A method for manufacturing a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant, characterized by the fact that naturally produced brucite is subjected to wet grinding such that the median diameter by Colter counter method is 2 to 6 μ m, and this ground product is surface treated with an ammonium salt or amine salt of a fatty acid and then dried.
- (2) A manufacturing method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the naturally produced brucite has a lattice distortion coefficient of 1 x 10⁻³ or less and a purity of 80 to 96%.
- (3) A manufacturing method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the ammonium salt or amine salt of a fatty acid is used in an amount of 1.5 to 6.0 wt% as fatty acid with respect to the brucite.
- (4) A magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant with superior efflorescence resistance, characterized by being composed of magnesium hydroxide particles having a developed brucite-type crystal structure and having a median diameter of 2 to 6 μm and a lattice distortion coefficient of 1 x 10⁻³ or less, and a fatty acid layer that covers the surface of said particles and at least part of which forms a magnesium salt, and by the fact that the degree of orientation (D₀) defined by the formula

 $D_0 = I_{001}/I_{101}$

(where I_{001} is the X-ray diffraction peak intensity of the index of plane [001] of the sample, and I_{101} is the X-ray diffraction peak intensity of the index of plane [101] of the sample)

is at least 2.

(5) A flame retardant resin composition comprising the blending of a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant as defined in Claim 4 with an olefin resin.

3. [Detailed Description of the Invention]

[Field of Industrial Utilization]

The present invention relates to a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant with excellent efflorescence resistance, and to a method for manufacturing the same. The present invention also relates to a flame retardant olefin resin composition containing this flame retardant.

[Prior Art]

It has long been known that magnesium hydroxide is an excellent flame retardant for olefin resins and the like, and a common practice is to blend a relatively large quantity of magnesium hydroxide into an olefin resin, along with a metal soap if needed.

Known methods for manufacturing the magnesium hydroxide used in these flame retardants and the like include a method in which a caustic alkali or slaked lime emulsion is added to and allowed to react in seawater or brine, and the product is washed and dried; a method in which a small amount of sodium hydroxide is added to magnesium hydroxide and subjected to a pressurization and heating treatment in an autoclave (Japanese Patent Publication 50-23680); a method in which a basic magnesium salt is subjected to a pressurization and heating treatment in an aqueous medium (Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application 52-115799); and a method in which a water-soluble magnesium salt and ammonia are allowed to react to manufacture a magnesium hydroxide salt (eg, Japanese Laid-Open Patent Applications 61-168522 and 62-123014).

[Problems Which the Invention is Intended to Solve]

Advantages had by the above-mentioned magnesium hydroxide used in conventional flame retardants were that it had a relatively uniform particle shape, such as hexagonal plates, had a relatively homogeneous and small particle diameter, and could be packed in a relatively large quantity with respect to the olefin resin or the like, but resin compositions containing these substances also had a number of drawbacks that remained to be solved.

One of these is that when a molded resin containing a large amount of a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant is left for an extended period in the atmosphere, it undergoes

a phenomenon called efflorescence, in which a white powdery oxide film is produced on the surface of the molded article. Analysis of this powder reveals it to be magnesium carbonate, so this efflorescence is recognized as being caused by a reaction between the magnesium hydroxide contained in the molded article and the carbon dioxide in the air.

Another problem is that with an olefin resin composition containing a known magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant, and particularly one in which said flame retardant is blended into a resin with a relatively large elastic modulus, there is a considerable decrease in the mechanical properties, such as elongation at break.

Therefore, an object of the present invention is to solve the above-mentioned problems encountered with conventional magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardants, and to provide a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant with superior efflorescence resistance and elongation and other such mechanical properties, and a method for manufacturing the same.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant that is relatively low in cost and is easy to manufacture, and a method for manufacturing the same.

[Means Used to Solve the Above-Mentioned Problems]

The present invention provides a method for manufacturing a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant, characterized by the fact that naturally produced brucite is subjected to wet grinding such that the median diameter by Colter counter method is 2 to 6 μ m, and this ground product is surface treated with an ammonium salt or amine salt of a fatty acid and then dried.

The present invention also provides a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant with superior efflorescence resistance, characterized by being composed of magnesium hydroxide particles having a developed brucite-type crystal structure and having a median diameter of 2 to 6 μ m and a lattice distortion coefficient of 1 x 10⁻³ or less, and a fatty acid layer that covers the surface of said particles and at least part of which forms a magnesium salt, and by the fact that the degree of orientation (D₀) defined by the formula

$$D_0 = I_{001}/I_{101}$$

(where I_{001} is the X-ray diffraction peak intensity of the index of plane [001] of the sample, and I_{101} is the X-ray diffraction peak intensity of the index of plane [101] of the sample)

is at least 2.

The present invention further provides a flame retardant resin composition comprising the blending of the magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant specified above with an olefin resin.

[Effect of the Invention]

One characteristic feature of the present invention is the use of naturally produced brucite as the raw material for the magnesium hydroxide. A characteristic of naturally produced brucite is that the brucite type of crystal structure is well-developed, and furthermore, the lattice distortion coefficient is 1×10^{-3} or less, and particularly 8×10^{-4} or less, which is not seen in synthetic magnesium hydroxides.

The inventors made the following interesting discovery in the course of their research into the present invention. Specifically, they prepared samples of magnesium hydroxide with varying lattice distortion coefficients, soaked each magnesium hydroxide in carbonated water, and examined the relationship between the lattice distortion coefficient and the amount of magnesium carbonate produced, which yielded the results illustrated by the graph in Figure 1. It is clear from the results in Figure 1 that the amount of magnesium carbonate produced on the magnesium hydroxide particle surface is closely related to the lattice distortion coefficient of the magnesium hydroxide, and that the greater is the lattice distortion coefficient, the larger is the amount of magnesium carbonate production.

The present invention is based on this knowledge, and makes use of naturally produced brucite, with its relatively low lattice distortion and its well-developed crystals, as a raw material. Incidentally, naturally produced brucite consists of coarse particles, and cannot be blended directly into a resin. A second characteristic feature of the present invention is that this brucite is wet-ground and to adjust its particle size so that the median diameter by Colter counter method will be 2 to 6 μ m, and preferably 2 to 4 μ m.

It is known that when brucite is ground in the air, the layers of brucite are readily cleaved through shear stress, which results in a substance that shows up as amorphous in X-ray analysis as a result of separation and recrystallization of the [001] planes ("Clay Handbook," 2nd Ed., edited by Japan Clay Soc., published by Gihodo (1967)). Based on this known fact, it is predicted that even though naturally produced brucite has a developed crystal structure, when it is ground for the sake of particle size adjustment, this sought-after crystal structure is destroyed. However, when naturally produced brucite is subjected to wet grinding as in the present invention, it is possible to adjust the particles to the abovementioned size essentially without changing the lattice distortion coefficient or degree of crystallization of this brucite. It is important in the present invention that the particle size be within the range given above. If the particle size exceeds the above range, there will be a pronounced tendency for the mechanical strength of the resin composition to decrease, but if the particle size is below the above range, there is a tendency for the melt flow characteristics or moldability of the resin composition to suffer, so neither of these extremes is desirable.

The third characteristic feature is that the ground material thus obtained is surface treated with an ammonium salt or amine salt of a fatty acid, and then dried. Specifically, there is still an active plane of magnesium hydroxide in ground brucite. When this ground material is surface treated with an ammonium salt or amine salt of a fatty acid, and this product is then dried, the salt decomposes, the ammonia or amine volatilizes, and the active fatty acid remains on the surface. At least part of this fatty acid reacts with the active magnesium hydroxide sites, and blocking of the active planes occurs. Thus, it should be clear that the present invention provides a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant whose reactivity with carbon dioxide is markedly suppressed. Furthermore, the fatty acid [salt of] magnesium or the fatty acid present on the surface of the magnesium hydroxide particles acts as a dispersant that covers the magnesium hydroxide particles and aids in their dispersion into the resin.

In brucite-type magnesium hydroxide particles, there is little activity in the plane parallel to the C axis [001], and there is a large amount of activity in the plane that is perpendicular to this. With the magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant of the present invention, it should be clear that the crystals are developed in the C axis direction and there is little activity thereof even when the particle diameter has been made very small.

Figure 2 shows the X-ray diffraction patterns for the magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant of the present invention. The following Table A, meanwhile, shows the X-ray diffraction patterns for magnesium hydroxide (brucite) by ASTM card.

Table A

dÅ	<i>I</i> /I ₁	hkl	dÅ	I/I ₁	hkl
4.77	90	001	1.0067	8	211
2.725	6	100	0.9543	2	005
2.365	100	101	0.9503	6	114
1.794	55	102	0.9455	8	212
1.573	35	110	0.9085	4	300
1.494	18	111	0.9001	< 1	105
1.373	16	103	0.8974	2	204
1.363	2	200	0.8923	. 2	301
1.310	12	201	0.8643	6	213
1.192	2	004	0.8156	4	115
1.183	10	202	0.7856	4	220
1.118	2	113	·		
1.092	4	104		,	
1.034	6	· 203			
1.030	2	210			

It can be seen from a comparison of Figure 2 and Table A that the magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant of the present invention has developed crystals in the [001] plane. This characteristic can be prescribed by the degree of orientation (D_0) of the formula given above (1). Whereas a conventional synthetic magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant has a degree of orientation (D_0) of 1.7 or less, with the present invention the degree of orientation (D_0) is at least 2, and preferably 3 or higher. The advantage of this feature is that the flame retardant of the present invention has superior efflorescence resistance, and when blended into a resin, has a higher elongation retention.

[Preferred Embodiments of the Invention]

The naturally produced brucite used in the present invention has a developed brucite-type crystal structure, and one that has a purity of 80 to 96%, and preferably 85 to 95%, and a lattice distortion coefficient of 1×10^{-3} or less, and preferably 8×10^{-4} or less, is generally preferable. The following is a typical example of the composition thereof.

Table B

	General Range		Preferred Rai	
MgO	55.0	- 66.0%	59.0	- 65.0%
SiO ₂	8.0	- 1.0	7.0	- 2.0
Al_2O_3				
}	2.0	- 0.1	1.8	- 0.2
Fe ₂ O ₃				
CaO	4.0	- 1.0	3.0	- 1.5
Ignition loss	32.0	- 25.0	30.0	- 26.0

This brucite is quarried here in Japan at the Eyama Mine in Oeyama, Kyoto Prefecture, at Hishamondake in Fukuoka Prefecture, and elsewhere, and is also produced in large quantities by The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the former Manchurian region of the People's Republic of China, and elsewhere.

The wet grinding of naturally produced brucite is performed as follows. An aqueous slurry of brucite is prepared, and this slurry is put into a ball mill, a tower mill, a circular vibrating mill, a spiral vibrating mill, a planet grinder, a sand grinder, an atomizer, a pulverizer, a supermicron mill, a colloidal mill, or the like and ground. The slurry concentration is generally 5 to 30 wt%, with a range of 10 to 25 wt% being particularly suitable. The particle size of the ground material should be within the above range, and if desired, the ground slurry can be passed through a liquid cyclone and graded, and particles of the desired size taken out.

An ammonium salt or amine salt of a fatty acid is added in the form of an emulsion to this ground slurry, and the system is agitated to perform a surface treatment. Examples of fatty acids include saturated or unsaturated fatty acids with a carbon number of 8 to 20, such as lauric acid, palmitic acid, stearic acid, oleic acid, linoleic acid, arachic acid, tridecylic acid, myristic acid, pentadecylic acid, heptadecylic acid, nonadecanoic acid, behenic acid, linoleic acid, arachidonic acid, coconut oil fatty acid, beef tallow fatty acid, soybean oil fatty acid, palm oil fatty acid, hardened oil fatty acid, and the like, and mixtures of fatty acids. Of these, oleic acid is preferable.

It is favorable for these fatty acids to be used in the form of an ammonium salt, but an amine salt can also be used, in which case the amine can be a mono-, di-, or triethanolamine, morpholine, pyrrolidine, piperidine, or the like. This ammonium salt or amine salt should be used in an amount of 1.5 to 6.0 wt%, and preferably 2.0 to 5.0 wt%, as fatty acid with respect to the brucite. There are no particular restrictions on the mixing and agitation of the two components, but they generally should be performed at a temperature between 20 and 90°C,

and preferably between 40 and 80°C. After the addition and mixing, the system should be aged for a time under gentle agitation.

The surface-treated slurry thus obtained is separated from the aqueous medium through solid-liquid separation by filtration, centrifugation, decantation, or another such means, and this is dried and cracked to obtain a finished product.

The magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant of the present invention is useful as a flame retardant for a variety of thermoplastic resins, and particularly olefin resins. Examples of olefin resins include low-, medium-, and high-density polyethylene, polypropylene, ethylene-propylene copolymers, ethylene-butene-1 copolymers, ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, ethylene-ethyl acrylate copolymers, and ion-cross linked olefin copolymers (ionomers). The magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant of the present invention can be blended in an amount of 90 to 230 wt%, and preferably 100 to 200 wt%, with respect to the resin.

[Merits of the Invention]

With the present invention, naturally produced brucite, which has a developed crystal structure and a small lattice distortion coefficient, is chosen as the raw material, and this is wet-ground and surface-treated with an ammonium salt or amine salt of a fatty acid. As a result, a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant is provided that has superior efflorescence resistance and suppressed reactivity with carbon dioxide, both in terms of particle structure and in terms of surface activity. A molded resin containing this flame retardant is advantageous in that it retains a more attractive appearance over time. This flame retardant also has excellent dispersibility in resins, thanks to its particle structure and surface structure, and a molded article containing the same has high elongation at break and superior mechanical strength.

[Practical Examples]

[Practical Example 1]

In this practical example, natural brucite was used as the raw material to manufacture a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant with excellent efflorescence resistance, and the composition blended with the olefin resin will be described.

We chose three types (A-1, B-1, and C-1) of natural brucite produced in the Korean peninsula; at the Lowes mine in Lancaster, Texas, United States; and in Astestos, Quebec, Canada. The composition thereof (analysis values), brucite purity, and median diameter were measured and are given in Table 1 below.

For the sake of comparison, similar measurements were made for a synthetic magnesium hydroxide (made by company A) synthesized from seawater magnesium, and these results are also given in Table 1.

The methods used to measure properties and those used for identification in the present invention are given below.

(1) Method for Measuring by Powder X-ray Diffraction

Measurements were made under the following conditions using an X-ray diffraction apparatus (Goniometer PMG-S2, Rate Meter ECP-D2) made by Rika Denki according to a standard powder X-ray diffraction procedure.

Measurement Conditions:

Target	Cu
Filter	Ni
Detector	SC
Voltage	40 kV
Current	20 mA
Count scale	8000 c/s
Time constant	1 sec
Scan speed	1/8°/min
Chart speed	2 cm/min
Divergence slit	(101) (202)
	1° 2°
Receiving slit	0.3 mm
Scattering slit	1° 2°
Glancing angle	6°

(2) Method for Measuring Lattice Distortion Coefficient of Index of Plane (101)

On the basis of a diffraction graph produced under the conditions given above in (1) for the powder X-ray diffraction method, and following the procedure proposed by Jorns et al. (see "X-ray Industrial Analysis Methods," Omusha Shoten (1965)), β (true half band width) was determined after using high-purity silicon (99.99% purity) to correct the index of plane (101) and (202) angles, and g (lattice distortion coefficient) was determined using the following Holl formula (1).

- λ: Cu-Kα₁ line 1.5405 Å
- θ: Black angle
- β: True half band width
- ε: Crystallite diameter (Å)
- η: lattice distortion coefficient

(3) Method for Measuring Degree of Orientation (D₀)

On the basis of a diffraction graph produced under the conditions given below by the powder X-ray diffraction method described above, the intensity of the diffraction peak of the indices of plane (001) and (101) were plugged into the following degree of orientation (D_0) formula (2), and the degree of orientation (D_0) was determined.

Degree of orientation (
$$D_0$$
) = I (001) / I (101) ... (2)

- I (001): Peak intensity (cps) of brucite index of plane (001)
- I (101): Peak intensity (cps) of brucite index of plane (101)

Measurement Conditions:

Target	Cu
Filter	Ni
Detector	SC
Voltage	30 kV
Current	15 mA
Count scale	8000 c/s
Time constant	1 sec
Scan speed	2°/min
Chart speed	1 cm/min
Divergence slit	1°
Receiving slit	0.15 mm
Scattering slit	1°
Glancing angle	6°

(4) Method for Measuring Brucite Purity (%)

On the basis of a diffraction graph produced by measuring a sample under the conditions given below by the powder X-ray diffraction method described above,

quantification and measurement were performed by internal standard method using the diffraction peak of the plane index (101).

As the internal standard method, a sample was produced in advance according to a standard method (see "X-ray Industrial Analysis Methods," Omusha Shoten (1965)) by adding 10 wt% calcium fluoride (CaF₂; guaranteed reagent made by Wako Pure Chemical) to 50 wt% silica gel powder (Silton LP-105, made by Mizusawa Chemical Industries), and mixing these components thoroughly and homogeneously. After this, [the brucite purity] was calculated from the surface area ratio of the diffraction peak of the plane index (101) in the case of brucite, and of the plane index (111) in the case of calcium fluoride, in the powder X-ray diffraction graph produced under the following measurement conditions, and the brucite content was determined as a percentage.

Measurement Conditions:

Target	Cu
Filter	Ni
Detector	SC
Voltage	40 kV
Current	20 mA
Count scale	8000 c/s
Time constant	2 sec
Scan speed	1/4°/min
Chart speed	1 cm/min
Divergence slit	1° .
Receiving slit	0.3 mm
Scattering slit	1°
Glancing angle	6°

(5) Method for Measuring Reactivity with CO₂

20 g of sample powder was added to and uniformly dispersed in 600 mL of a $\rm CO_2$ gas saturated aqueous solution at 25°C, after which this product was allowed to stand for 3 days at 25°C, and the liquid portion was then filtered off. The solid portion was then dried at 110°C and used as the sample for measuring reactivity with $\rm CO_2$.

Reactivity was measured as follows. A sample that had been brought into contact with CO₂ by the above method was measured under the measurement conditions and by the X-ray diffraction method given in (4) above, and on the basis of the resulting diffraction graph, quantification and measurement were performed by standard addition method using the diffraction peak for the plane index (101).

As the standard addition method, 50 wt% silica gel (the same as above, made by Mizusawa Chemical Industries) was added to the sample by a usual method, after which a standard sample of brucite was added in amounts of 5 wt% and 10 wt%, [reactivity] was calculated from the surface area ratio of the diffraction peak of the plane index (101), and the amount of magnesium hydroxide that reacted with CO₂ was determined. This value was termed the amount (%) of magnesium carbonate produced through reaction with CO₂. The smaller was the numerical value, the lower the reactivity was evaluated to be.

(6) Method for Measuring Average Particle Diameter (Median Diameter)

1 g of sample was collected in a 200 mL beaker, 150 mL of deionized water was added to this, and the system was ultrasonically dispersed for 2 minutes under agitation. This dispersion was then measured using a Colter Counter model TA-II made by Colter Counter and using a 100 μ m aperture tube. The average particle diameter (median diameter (μ m)) was determined from the cumulative distribution graph obtained here.

Table 1

Sample No.	F	Practical Exampl	e	Comp. Ex.
-	A-1	B-1	C-1	Synthetic
Place produced	Korean peninsula	Texas, U.S.A.	Quebec, Canada	Company A
Composition (wt%)				
MgO	61.2	64.2	61.0	68.5
SiO ₂	6.5	4.3	6.4	0.0
CaO	2.5	1.8	2.2	0.61
Fe ₂ O ₃	1.5	1.2	1.9	0.09
Ig. loss	28.5	28.8	28.7	29.8
Brucite purity (%)	88.0	90.0	87.5	99.5
Median diameter (μm)	11.3	15.0	7.5	5.0
Oil absorption (cc/g)	31.0	28.0	34.0	-
Specific surface area (m ²	/g) 4.3	3.9	4.6	<u>-</u>

150 g of the natural brucite that served as the raw material here (sample Nos. A-1 and B-1) and 750 g of water (20% slurry concentration) were each collected in a ceramic pot mill with a capacity of 7 L, and these were subjected to wet grinding in which flint balls were used as the grinding medium and rotated for 8 hours. After grinding, the two types (sample Nos. A-2 and B-2) of ground slurry were each collected in a vessel and heated to a temperature of approximately 80°C. A previously prepared emulsion aqueous solution of ammonium oleate was poured into this slurry under agitation, ammonium oleate was added in an amount

corresponding to 2.5 wt% with respect to the brucite solids, the system was agitated for 2 hours while being maintained at approximately 80°C, and a surface treatment was performed while part of the ammonium oleate was allowed to react with the surface of the brucite particles. After this surface treatment, the product was filtered, washed with water, and dried at 110°C to manufacture two types of brucite-type magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant that were surface treated with ammonium oleate (sample Nos. A-4 and B-4).

Of the two types of brucite sample manufactured here, the properties given below were measured for two types (sample Nos. A-3 and B-3) of untreated brucite particle powder prepared by filtering and drying the brucite slurry prior to the brucite surface treatment with ammonium oleate. These results are given in Table 2 below.

The same properties were measured for the above-mentioned synthetic product as a comparative example, the results of which are given in Table 2.

Table 2

Sample Number	A-1	B-2	Synthetic (Comp. Ex.)
Median diameter (μm)	2	2	2
Crystal type	brucite	brucite	brucite
Brucite purity (%)	88	90	100
Lattice distortion coefficien	t 4.6 × 10 ⁻⁴	3.8×10^{-4}	2.0 ×10 ⁻³
Degree of orientation (D ₀)	3.64	6.36	1.67
Reactivity with CO ₂	43.0	53.0	97.5

Next, using these two types of sample, each was blended with an olefin resin, and this product was evaluated as a resin finished product by conducting a tensile elongation retention test and a carbon dioxide resistance (efflorescence resistance) test, and the flame retardance effect was evaluated by conducting a critical oxygen index test.

As a comparative example, the same evaluations were conducted for the abovementioned synthetic product.

Two types of resin were chosen in this practical example: EVA (Ethylene Vinyl Acetate; Ultracene 630) made by Tosoh, and EEA (Ethylene Ethyl Acrylate; DPDJ 6169) made by Nippon Unicar, both commercially available industrially.

The blend amount with respect to the resin was 130 weight parts sample powder per 100 weight parts resin. Using a 3.5-inch kneading roll, the components were kneaded for 10 minutes at 100°C, and this product was sandwiched between stainless steel plates whose surface was finished with Teflon, and pressed for 7 minutes at 130°C to prepare sheets for the various tests (a dumbbell shape (JIS K 7113) with a thickness of 1 mm was used for the

elongation retention test, a sheet measuring 60 x 120 x 1 mm was used for the carbon dioxide resistance test, and a sheet measuring 6 x 80 x 1 mm was used for the critical oxygen index test.

Tests for the various properties were conducted using the test sheets prepared above, the results of which are given in Table 3.

The test measurement methods conducted to evaluate the properties of the resin finished products containing the flame retardants will now be discussed.

(1) Tensile Elongation Retention Test

A test sheet prepared by the above method was hung in a desiccator that had been saturated with CO₂ gas at a relative humidity of 90%, and the sheet was left for 2 weeks in a 30°C thermostatic chamber. After being exposed to the CO₂ gas for these two weeks, the test sheet was cut into a dumbbell shape, after which this product was measured according to the tensile test method for plastics set forth in JIS K 7113. The greater is the elongation retention, the stronger is the resistance of the sheet to pulling.

(2) Carbon Dioxide Resistance (Efflorescence Resistance) Test

A test sheet prepared by the above method was hung in a desiccator that had been saturated with CO₂ gas at a relative humidity of 90%, and the sheet was left for 2 weeks in a 30°C thermostatic chamber. The increase in the weight of the test sheet after these two weeks was determined and expressed as a proportional weight increase (%). The smaller was the proportional increase, the better the carbon dioxide resistance (efflorescence resistance) was evaluated to be.

(3) Critical Oxygen Index (%) Test

A test was conducted according to method A given in JIS K 7201 using a candle method combustion tester made by Toyo Seiki Seisakusho, and the critical oxygen index (%) was determined. The greater was this index, the better the flame retardance effect was evaluated to be.

(4) Electrical Insulating Property (VR, õ·cm) Test

This test was conducted according to JIS K 1723. A resin sheet (1 mm thick) containing a specific amount of sample was kept for 24 hours (20°C) in a desiccator maintained at a relative humidity of 60%, after which a piece of tin foil was stuck with pure vaseline to this test sheet, the electrical resistance value of the sheet was measured by direct deflection method, and the volumetric resistivity $q(\Omega \cdot cm)$ was determined from this measurement value by the following formula.

 $\rho = R \times A/D$

ρ: volumetric resistivity (Ω ·cm)

A: surface area (cm²) of tin foil (smaller one)

D: thickness of sheet (cm)

Table 3

Sample Number	A	-4	В	-4	Synthetic (Comp. Ex.)
Type of resin	EVA	EEA	EVA	EEA	EVA	EEA
Elongation retention (%)	85.6	88.3	86.5	89.2	80.7	59.9
Carbon dioxide resist. (%	6) 9.3	5.6	9.6	6.2	12.0	11.6
Critical oxygen index (%) 30.0	25.0	30.0	25.0	33.5	25.5
Electrical insulation (Ω·c	m)6.5 x 10	0 ¹⁴ 4.8 x 1	$016_{6.0 \times 1}$	$0^{14}4.0 \times 1$	$0^{16}3.6 \times 1$	$013_{1.5 \times 10^{16}}$

[Translator's note: Legibility of superscripts in last line is poor in original.]

The above results show that the two types of brucite manufactured by the method of the present invention were both prepared in a suitable particle diameter, and that the lattice distortion coefficient was small, the crystals were well developed, the degree of orientation was high, and [these substances] were effective at orientation dispersion during blending into the resin. Furthermore, the brucite that underwent surface treatment with an oleate in this practical example was magnesium hydroxide whose reactivity in CO₂ saturated water was held low and which did not readily undergo carbonation. In addition, the sheet obtained by blending [this substance] into a resin had suppressed reactivity with carbon dioxide, underwent no efflorescence, and had excellent flame retardance, all of which is readily apparent from a comparison with the synthetic product.

[Practical Example 2]

This practical example deals with a magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant that has been surface treated with an ammonium salt or amine salt of a fatty acid.

The slurry of sample No. 2 prepared by the method given in Practical Example 1 was used as the wet-ground slurry of natural brucite, and two types of fatty acid salts were chosen from among commercially available extra pure reagents and subjected to surface treatment in the amount proportions given in Table 4 below by the same method as that discussed in Practical Example 1. This product was filtered, washed with water, and dried to manufacture two types (sample Nos. 2-1 and 2-2) of brucite-type magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant that had each been surface treated.

The surface treatment was carried out in the same manner, using sodium oleate as the surface treatment agent. After filtration, the product was thoroughly washed with deionized water to prepare the desired product. A comparative example sample was also prepared.

The flame retardant samples prepared here, which had been surface treated with an oleate and in which efflorescence of the brucite system had been prevented, were each blended in an amount of 130 parts with 100 parts of each of two types (EVA and EEA) of olefin resin, just as in Practical Example 1. The properties of these products were measured, the results of which are also given in Table 4.

Table 4

Sample No.	2.	2-1	2-	2-2	2-	2-3	Comparativ	Comparative Example	
Type of fatty acid salt used for surface treatment	ammoniu	ammonium oleate	ammoniu	ammonium oleate	morpholi	norpholine oleate	sodium	sodium oleate	
Fatty acid salt surface treatment amount (%)	2.	0	ж. -	3.5	2.5	5	2.5	5	
Type of resin	EVA	EEA	EVA	EEA	EVA	EEA	EVA	EEA	
Elongation retention (%)	82.9	85.3	93.1	89.0	92.8	88.4	82.8	61.5	
Carbon dioxide resistance	0.6	5.2	8.1	5.1	8.2	5.1	11.0	7.0	
Critical oxygen index (%)	29.8	25.0	29.0	24.8	29.5	25.5	28.0	24.5	
Electrical insulation (Ω·cm)	6.0×1014	2.5×10^{16}	9.0×10^{14}	4.5×10^{16}	$4.8 \times 101^{\circ}$	2.5×10^{16}	51.6×10^{12}	$6.0 \times 10^{14}2.5 \times 10^{16}9.0 \times 10^{14}4.5 \times 10^{16}4.8 \times 10^{15}2.5 \times 10^{16}1.6 \times 10^{13}1.0 \times 10^{16}$	

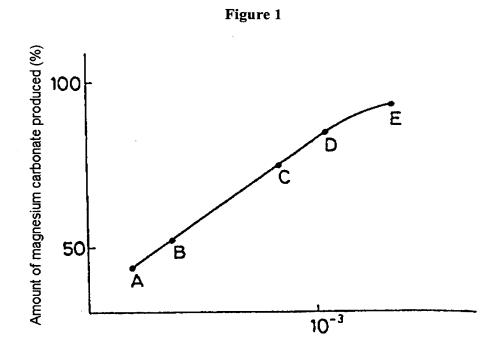
[Translator's note: Legibility of superscripts in last line is poor in original.]

It can be seen from the above results that when an ammonium salt or amine salt of a fatty acid is used for surface treatment, the resulting flame retardant that is blended into an olefin resin has lower reactivity with CO₂, has superior efflorescence resistance, and has better electrical insulation property than with surface treatment by sodium oleate.

4. [Brief Description of the Figures]

Figure 1 is a graph of the relationship between the lattice distortion coefficient of the magnesium hydroxide-based flame retardant of the present invention and the amount (%) of magnesium carbonate produced; and

Figure 2 shows X-ray diffraction patterns for the magnesium hydroxide of the present invention and for a synthetic magnesium hydroxide (comparative example).

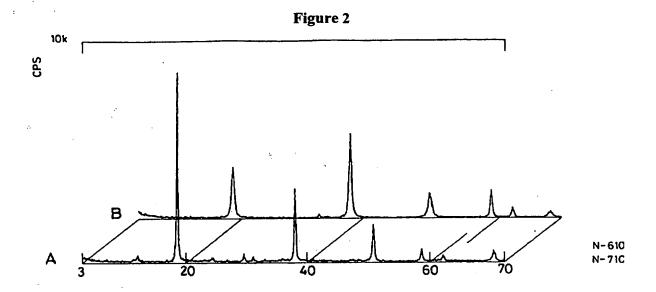


Lattice distortion coefficient

A: Sample No. A-3 given in Practical Example 1

B: Sample No. B-3 given in Practical Example 1

D: Sample No. synthetic product (comparative example) given in Practical Example 1



Example 1

A: Sample No. A-3 given in Practical

B: Sample No. synthetic product (comparative example) given in Practical Example 1